



MAYOR
Oscar Leeser

CITY MANAGER
Tommy Gonzalez

CITY COUNCIL

District 1
Brian Kennedy

District 2
Alexandra Anello

District 3
Cassandra Hernandez

District 4
Joe Molinar

District 5
Isabel Salcido

District 6
Art Fierro

District 7
Henry Rivera

District 8
Chris Canales

**NEWS
RELEASE**

06 / 27 / 2023

El Paso Museum of History Presents Desert Couture: Fashioning Two Centuries in the Southwest

EL PASO, Texas— The City of El Paso Museum of History (EPMH) invites the community to visit its newest exhibition, *Desert Couture: Fashioning Two Centuries in the Southwest*.

The exhibition features EPMH’s diverse collection of textiles, accessories, and garments, which span from the antebellum period in the 1800s, up to the mid-late 20th century.

The exhibition is part of the City’s 150th anniversary. For more information about the City’s Sesquicentennial Celebration visit, www.ElPasoTexas.gov/150.

Desert Couture showcases how the arrival of the railroad at the end of the 19th century transformed the Paso del Norte region into a commercial crossroads, leading to a boom in population, industry, and labor needs in what had previously been a small, predominantly Mexican town.

Individuals from Europe, Syria, and Lebanon migrated to El Paso in search of opportunities and brought with them new styles, customs, and tastes.

Department stores in Downtown El Paso such as Popular Dry Goods, The White House, and others formed a hub for imported fashions that advertised to a growing population of customers across the Southwest and northern Mexico.

At these stores, people could shop the latest fashion trends from the United States and Europe, purchase ready-to-wear pieces for daily use, and commission custom-made clothing for special occasions. “Desert Couture” highlights the merchants, designs, fabrication, and trends that defined fashion for generations of El Pasoans.

The exhibition will be on display through March 16, 2024.

For more information about the EPMH visit, EPMuseumOfHistory.org/

###



Promoting **Transparent & Consistent Communication**
Among All Members of the Community

Media contact: First Last Name
Title
(915) 212-####